

City of Somerville, Health Department
Report to Joint Public Health Board, Board of Health and Mayor's Office
for April 2006

To Be Submitted May 9, 2006 to JPHB

Board of Health

- Board members approve changes to the Regulations Affecting Access to Tobacco Products by Minors.
- Board members discussed final Body Art Apprenticeship Process language to include in Public Hearing.

Director's Updates

Emergency Preparedness

- Director represents Department at monthly Region 4B Emergency Preparedness meeting
- Director, Public Health Nurse, and Somerville Hospital Operations Manager present on Flu Pandemic Planning to the Kiwanis Club

Rodent Control

- Director meets with Aldermen Rodent Control Subcommittee and convenes first meeting of Rodent Control Taskforce

Fiscal/ Budget

- Director and Administrative Assistant prepare FY07 budget narrative and fiscal tasks
- Director and Tobacco Control work on Tobacco Grant Overspend
- Director convenes Somerstat student working group to revise program map for FY07

Active Living/ Shape Up Somerville

- Director and Bike Pedestrian Coordinator meet with Walk Boston Executive Director to explore Partnership for Active Living

Other

- Director meets with strategic planner to finalize Program Improvement Request for Assistant Director
- Director participates in Mayor sponsored meeting with George Bachrach on digitizing the records
- Director meets with new Animal Control Officer to discuss plans for Rabies Day
- Director participates in final reviews for Shannon Anti-Gang grant

Personnel

- Director delegates hiring process tasks to staff for the following positions: SCAP Director, Emergency Preparedness Assistant Coordinator, Shape Up Somerville Coordinator
- Director participates in second interview for Shape Up Somerville Coordinator
- Director interviews potential student intern for the summer

Health Inspectors

Sanitary Inspections

- Responded to 22 complaints, 20 resolved

- Conducted 24 inspections of retail/food establishments, 23 reinspections
- Seven new business inspections
- Sixteen first visits to potential new businesses

Housing Inspections

- Responded to 94 complaints, 77 resolved
- Conducted 3 full inspections
- Responded to 3 emergencies (2 high carbon monoxide levels, 1 scraping lead paint - exterior)
- Met with Modern Pest Extermination for rodent control in the City of Somerville
- Collaborated with the Neighborhood Impact Team
- Court hearings for trash tickets
- Issued trash & commercial tickets

Public Health Nursing

- Participated in hiring process for Assistant Coordinator of Emergency Preparedness
- Presented information on avian flu to Kiwanis members (with Health Dept. Director & Director of Nursing for Somerville Hospital)
- Assisted School Nurses with completing NIMS & ICS courses
- Attended Immunization Update conference
- Investigated 8 communicable disease cases

School Nursing

- School Nurses continue to gather health information updates to maintain student compliance with health mandates
- School Nurses gave first aid to 1362 students in March
- School Nurses performed illness assessments on 2682 students in March
- School Nurses performed 842 nursing procedures in March (tube feedings, ostomy care, glucose testing, peak/flow monitoring etc.)
- School Nurses gave out medications to students 1879 times in March
- School Nurses were updated on Emergency Preparedness activities
- Psychosocial Counseling was documented 436 times in nurse's offices in March
- School nurses updated on asthma tracking project for school physician
- SNL continues to provide clinical support to nurses
- SNL provided direct care in schools when subs unavailable
- SNL continuing quality assurance project on vision follow up documentation
- SNL continues to attend PEP grant planning meetings
- SNL continues to seek substitute nurses to fill roster
- SNL worked on next year's goals with Somerstat team

Somerville Commission for Women

- Somerville Domestic Violence Taskforce: has organized its agenda for a retreat to identify the goal, objectives, and vision statement.

- TADA: group had a great inter-city retreat with other TADA-like groups. We have new members and plans for next year's events stated.
- Commissioners: has organized its own TV show, which will be taped monthly and shown on the city's ch. 15/16 throughout each month. The first show is an introduction to the Commission.

Somerville Cares About Prevention

- Participated in multi-city collaboration meeting re: the Shannon Anti-gang grant meeting. 4/4/06
- BSAS/MOAR Board Planning Meeting, SCAP, TE & Revere Cares Shannon Gang Prevention Grant-Regional Prevention Planning Mtg Shannon Gang Prevention Somerville Planning Mtg 4/5/06
- Shannon Gang Prevention Grant Steering Committee Meeting 4/11/06
- Outreach in Davis Square for National Alcohol Screening Day distributing info on alcohol dependence and other substances. 4/6/06
- Met with facilitators of the Coaches Conversations Group to strategize on outreach. 4/10/06
- Attended Mass Forum training in Shrewsbury. Topic: Leadership. 4/12/06
- FA Meeting 4/13/06
- Met with Coalition Directors of Medford and Everett to plan regional Spring Sticker shock campaign Roller World Substance-free youth activity 35 attended with SCAP, SCYP, B&G Club 4/18/06
- Met with 2 staff of Institute of Community Health to install a software program on SCAP's computer to allow us to enter membership data. 4/20/06
- Outreach to the community on SCAP activities at Healthy Meals Dinner at Elizabeth Peabody House. Sticker Shock Campaign Alcohol Purchase Surveys 4/21/06
- Attended inter-coalition meeting at Regional Center for Healthy Communities. 4/24/06
- Attended Somerville's Youth Workers Network Meeting 4/25/06
- Attended Evaluation Meeting with 2 staff of Institute of Community Health and 2 SCAP staff. Began work on SCAP CMCA Logic Model. 4/26/06
- Facilitated monthly Coordinating Committee Meeting 4/26/06
- Meeting with Julie at Caspar 4/27/06
- Attended Metro North Regional Employment Board meeting to discuss P-21. Stand Up for Your Rights Day at the State House: Workshop on rights for people in recovery and with addictions. 4/28/06
- Met with Evaluators and facilitator of Guiding Good Choices Program to review evaluation instrument. 4/28/06

Tobacco Control

Administrative

- Second round of interviews of candidates for Enforcement Officer Position scheduled for 05/11/06.

Youth Access

- Educational Mailings:
 - Somerville: 128 pieces
 - Cambridge: 137 pieces
 - Chelsea: 58 pieces
 - Everett: 57 pieces
 - Revere: 86 pieces
 - Total: 466 pieces

- Tobacco retailer compliance checks in:
 - Cambridge (Checked: 117, Sales: 1, Tickets: 1, Total: \$200). Rate of sale FY05: 3.7%
 - Chelsea (Checked: 54, Sales: 0) Rate of sale FY05: 2.2%

- Tobacco retailer educational inspections in:
 - Cambridge (Visited: 77, Signage Violations: 24, Permit Violations: 8, warnings: 26)
 - Somerville (Visited: 21, Signage Violations: 14, Permit Violations: 1, warnings: 14)

- Policy Development:
 - Somerville: BOH passed amendments to Youth Access Regulation on 04/20/06.

- Tobacco Permit Suspension for Repeated Sales to Minors
 - Somerville: Central Variety (2 weeks)

ETS

- Inspections:
 - Cambridge (Inspected: 92, violations: 7, warnings: 7)
 - Somerville (Inspected: 24, Complaint: 1, violations: 7, Warning: 7)
 - Revere (Inspected: 22, Violations: 0)
 - Everett (Inspected: 2, complaint: 1, Violations: 0)

Trauma Response Network

- Chaired 2 TRN Leadership Mtgs 4/3, 4/10
- Distributed collateral paperwork for Suicide Survivor's Support Group
- Performed recruitment for preliminary focus group for Suicide Survivor's Support Group and attending correspondence
- Co-facilitated Suicide Survivor's Focus Group 4/5
- Attended 2-day annual Suicide Prevention Conference 4/25-26
- Attended all day training with School Personnel of Secure VIII, offered by DA's office and Project Alliance 4/11
- Attended Youth Worker/Coaches Conversations meeting to continue work on funded grant 4/10 - as well as continued independent work related to this training

- Met with District Administrator of Student Services and Director of Guidance to discuss trauma protocols 4/4
- Worked on TRN services document
- Networked with TRN members
- Met with Somers tat intern re: mapping for next fiscal year
- Began preliminary work to facilitate hiring process for new SCAP Director